

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Pelath

A HOUSE RESOLUTION memorializing Al Pontius.

Whereas, Al Pontius was born on September 3, 1925, and passed away on December 30, 2006, at the age of 81;

Whereas, The son of Alvin and Beulah Pontius, Al Pontius was born in LaPorte where he lived for most of his fruitful life;

Whereas, Al Pontius married his wife of 33 years, Jean Ann, and together they raised three daughters and one son;

Whereas, Al Pontius served in the Navy during World War II and upon returning, began an illustrious entrepreneurial career;

Whereas, Al Pontius founded Al's Supermarkets, opening his first store in 1946 in Michigan City;

Whereas, Al Pontius expanded his business through hard work and a dedication to customer satisfaction which enabled



him to eventually open at total of six grocery stores;

Whereas, Al Pontius championed the values of small business by successfully operating his company in the midst of the rise of corporate chains and graciously employed the former owners of those businesses which did not survive, benefitting the greater community with their wealth of knowledge;

Whereas, A prominent local businessman and chairman of Lakeshore Foods, Al Pontius was an investor in Sullivan Machine Corporation, where he served as vice president and on the board of directors;

Whereas, Al Pontius was deeply committed to his community serving as the president of the Saint Anthony Memorial Advisory Board and the Pottawattomie Country Club, as well as serving many years on the boards of the Samaritan Center and Horizon Bank;

Whereas, Al Pontius was an active member of Bird Key Yacht Club, Pottawattomie Country Club, Long Boat Key Club, Sorin Society, Moose Lodge, Elks Club, Marquette High School and Northern Masonic Jurisdiction;

Whereas, Al Pontius was a great supporter of and raised funds for the LaPorte County Fair, Boy Scouts, Marquette High School, Saint Anthony Memorial, United Way and the American Heart Association;

Whereas, In an effort to raise funds for the local Red Cross, Al Pontius sponsored an open golf tournament for ten years;

Whereas, Al Pontius was the recipient of the "Book of Golden Deeds" Awards by the Exchange Club and the "Liberty Bell" Award by the Michigan City Bar Association; and

Whereas, During the Fourth of July Parade, Al Pontius was honored as grand marshal and named as one of LaPorte County's "Very Best Men."; Therefore



Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Al Pontius and its appreciation for his years of commitment to his community of LaPorte County and to the state of Indiana.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to his wife, Jean Ann, daughters, Judith, Lynda, and Cathy, and son, Gil.

